

# DAHLIAS

1919



COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE  
DEPARTMENT OF DAHLIAS  
CULTURAL HYBRIDIZATION  
DEPARTMENT OF DAHLIAS  
SCHOOL OF DAHLIAS  
1919

F C BURNS  
SAN RAFAEL  
CALIFORNIA



## CULTURE OF DAHLIAS

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The dahlia is one of the easiest of all flowers to cultivate and will produce more flowers than any other plant grown, flowering all summer and fall if the simple cultural directions are followed closely. They can be grown in any good garden soil, but if possible plant in an open sunny situation. Prepare the soil thoroughly by digging 12 to 18 inches deep in the fall, if possible, and again in the spring. Plant any time between April 20th and June 1st, digging holes six inches deep and from three to four feet apart. Then lay in the tuber flat on its side, the size of which makes no difference as long as it has one strong eye or sprout. Cover three inches deep, thus leaving the hole one half full, to be filled after plant comes up 6 to 8 inches above the ground.

As soon as the plant is large enough, cut out the top of it just above the second or third set of leaves, which causes the plant to grow a stout branch at the base of each of the four or six leaves left. Just as soon as the plants are up, the most important thing to do is to keep the soil loose and mellow by hoeing or cultivating once or twice a week and just as soon after each rain as the soil will permit. As soon as the buds appear stop all cultivation and give the beds a mulch of rotted manure, leaves, etc. Water the beds and plants thoroughly once or twice a week and especially during the dry weather. Tie each plant to a strong stake so it may have a strong support. To have the greatest success is to keep them growing as strong and sturdy as possible. Never allow the faded flowers to remain on the plant but cut them off with as much stem

or stalk as you can. To have larger blooms it is necessary to disbud, leaving the center bud and taking off the side ones, leaving a stem approximately eighteen inches long. Dahlias will continue to bloom until a heavy frost kills the tops in late fall, after which the tops are cut off and the roots are dug and stored in a frost proof cellar or basement, covering with dry soil, sand or anything that will keep them from shriveling. Divide in the spring after the eyes begin to show.

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## DAHLIA SEED

Much pleasure can be derived from growing dahlia seeds. Dahlias grow very easily from seed. Plant early, then transplant after danger of frost. They will make large plants, the first year.

October 18, 1918  
Short Hill, N. J.

Dear Sir:

*It gives me much pleasure to tell you that out of fifty seeds I had forty nine healthy plants, only one of them not germinating. One of them is the finest Dahlia I have ever seen, and I shall divide it carefully for increase next year. It is a massive American Beauty red hybrid cactus averaging 8 and 9 inches across and 4 or 5 inches deep on a stem as thick as my forefinger.*

Yours very truly,

Mrs. C. H. S.

Seed artificially fertilized and gathered from the best varieties of Decorative Hybrid Cactus and Paeony dahlias. 50 cents a package.

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I would be pleased to receive applications for membership in the Dahlia Society of California, \$2.00 per year, which includes privileges of the Society and bulletins.

## FOREWORD

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I TAKE great pleasure in presenting this catalogue to my customers and friends. I do not list a large collection, but such varieties that have been selected for their superiority in color, perfection of form, length and stiffness of stem, continuous blooming, etc. In the following selection the public taste is well satisfied. I aim to give prompt and careful attention. Prices are for divided field grown roots, pot grown bulbs or green plants. Either kind will give equally good results.

TERMS—All retail orders are delivered prepaid.

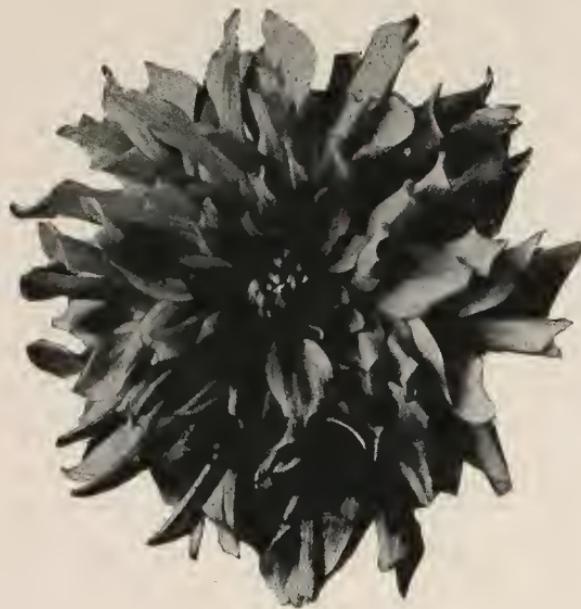
CASH with order or in advance of shipment.

SPECIAL OFFER—All orders amounting to \$10.00 or over allowed 10% discount.

I guarantee all roots and plants to be healthy, and true to name. Having no control over them after delivery I do not guarantee them to live and thrive. They should be returned upon delivery if not satisfactory. As I desire to give satisfaction to all who have favored me with an order, notify me immediately of any error.

### POMPON DAHLIAS

These produce small compact flowers perfectly formed, reminding one of a miniature show dahlia. Very attractive. Unequalled for cutting and garden display. 25cts. each. 12 different varieties \$2.50



#### T. A. BURNS\*

A pink hybrid cactus with good stems and excellent for cutting; a very free bloomer. A dahlia that should be in every garden. Flower medium size and true to form. \$2.50 each

#### PACIFIC GLOW\*

An extraordinary large pink paeony dahlia, florets long and slightly twisted, stems a little pendulous. Good for exhibition. A prize taker for the largest dahlia in the show 1918 (exhibited as seedling 139). \$2.50 each

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(\* My own introductions.)

### **THE GRIZZLY\***

A dark maroon red decorative; without a doubt this is one of the best and most prolific dahlias to date. Stems 3 feet long; plants grow 3 or 4 feet in diameter, flowers are extra large and reflexed which makes it attractive. Awarded prize C. D. S. Trial Garden 1917. One of my best. A rare novelty. \$3.00 each

### **MRS. F. C. BURNS\***

Awarded fourth prize C. D. S. Trial Gardens 1917. A shell pink decorative, very striking, one of the best for all purposes, excellent habits. Very choice. \$2.00 each

### **FRANCIS BURNS, Jr.\***

Awarded third prize C. D. S. Trial Gardens 1917. Light pink decorative shading to white in center; this variety is exceptionally prolific, good stems, flowers medium size. The coming dahlia. \$2.00 each

### **SAN RAFAEL\***

A unique paeony dahlia salmon pink shading to yellow, same coloring as Beauty of Glayenwood or San Rafael rose, good stems and keeping qualities. Something different. \$2.00 each

### **EUGENE BURGLE\***

One of my best 1918 introductions, a red decorative, a very prolific and fine for cut flowers, an improved seedling from the famous Minnie Burgle. \$2.00 each

Awarded 1st prize (Trophy Cup) on best 12 California Dahlias, Palace Show, 1918.



#### **ALASKA\***

White decorative of great merit. This is one of our first introductions. A good bloomer, flowers of good size and held on long straight stems.

**CHARMINSTER\*** 75cts. each

A true decorative of salmon terra cotta. An unusual shade among dahlias. This is a very attractive flower. A prolific bloomer with long graceful stems. 75cts. each

#### **LADY LAVENDER\***

Decorative. The best lavender to date; something unusual; very free with fine stems; likes cool climate. \$1.00 each

#### **MT. TAMALPAIS\***

Dark red paeony. One of the largest dahlias to date; taking the first prize for the largest dahlias in the show C. D. S. 1917, flowers 11 inches across. Very prolific and good stems. \$2.00 each

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(\* My own introductions.)



#### **GEO. WALTERS**

One of the most beautiful hybrid cactus type. Bright salmon pink, artistically suffused with old gold. A wonderful bearer. The flowers are large and held on long stiff stems. Geo. Walters received the gold medal at the P.-P. I. E., San Francisco, 1915. \$1.00 each

#### **DR. H. TEVIS**

First prize C. D. S. Trial Gardens. A decorative of enormous size. Flowers measure 9 to 11 inches in diameter, held erect on long stiff stems, a pretty shade of salmon rose, suffused with old gold. A rare novelty. \$2.00 each

#### **PRIDE OF CALIFORNIA**

A large red decorative that cannot be beaten; very large flowers, held on extra good stems, very prolific and an exceptionally good keeper. Fine for garden and exhibition. Awarded second prize C. D. S. Gardens 1917. \$2.00 each

### **MEXICO\***

An attractive red and yellow paeony; can be used for any purpose. Large flowers held on good stems. \$1.50 each

### **KING OF THE AUTUMN**

A new buff decorative, a well formed flower with vigorous growth. It is unique in color. \$1.00 each

### **SUNSHINE**

A bright flame red decorative, a color very seldom seen in dahlias, slightly flushed with yellow; flowers are very deep, held on good stems. Another Californian that is becoming very popular. \$1.50 each

### **TOM LUNDY**

One of the largest hybrid cactus grown. Of bright velvet red held on good stems and a very prolific bloomer. One of our most sensational novelties. Awarded a first prize P.-P. I. E. 1915. 75cts. each

### **GEISHA**

Paeony flowering type of a rich color with shadings of orange red tipped with yellow. Sure bloomer and fine for cutting. 35cts. each

### **MINNIE BURGLE**

The best red decorative. A California production of wonderful merit. We were the first to introduce this grand variety. 25cts. each

### **DELICE**

A most beautiful rose pink, decorative, perfectly formed and one of the best varieties known for keeping. 25cts. each

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(\* My own introductions.)



